

THE
Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

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JULY, 1884.

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Supplement :

CO-OPERATIVE INDEX TO CURRENT PERIODICALS.

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BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

A Guide for Parents and Children, compiled by C. M. HEWINS, Librarian of Hartford Library Association. 32mo. Price, in paper, 25 cents.

[The original edition is out of print; a revised and extended edition will be issued early in Fall when orders will be filled in order of receipt.]

"A little manual long needed, and one that will be heartily welcomed by parents who recognize the importance of carefully supervising their children's reading, but are often confused and at a loss on account of the multitude of works for the young now published, of every conceivable degree of merit and demerit. A classified list of good books is given, with indications as to the age and sex to which they are best suited. The list is prefaced by hints as to how children should be taught the right use of books, a note on

good reading in English and American history for children, and a "symposium" on children's books, containing interesting extracts from many sources. Miss Hewins has charge of the department 'Literature for the Young' in the *Library Journal*, is librarian of the Hartford Library Association, and may safely be accepted as an authority and guide by parents and buyers of children's books."—*Good Literature*.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS.

Papers selected by SAMUEL S. GREEN, Librarian of the Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass. 16mo, cloth, 50 cents.

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Contents: The Public Library and the Public Schools, by Charles Francis Adams, Jr.; The Relation of the Public Library to the Schools, by Samuel S. Green; Libraries as Educational Institutions, by Samuel S. Green; The Public Library as an Auxiliary to the Public Schools, by Robert C. Metcalf; The Relation of Libraries to the School System, by William E. Foster; A Plan of Systematic Training in Reading at School, by William E. Foster.

"Nothing could be better than the suggestions which the book contains for facilitating the steps of young scholars to the libraries."—*Boston Advertiser*.

"The special value of these papers is that they not only show what might be done, but tell what has been done. Teachers who recognize the truth that they owe something

to their pupils beyond mere listening to routine recitations, and librarians who have a higher view of their duties than that which regards them as purely clerical, will find practical suggestions and accounts of successful experiments, in bringing about the use of the libraries by the schools."—*Good Literature*.

LIBRARIES AND READERS.

Chapters of suggestion and counsel on the subject of reading, the use of books and of libraries.

By WILLIAM E. FOSTER, Librarian of the Providence Public Library, and compiler of the "Monthly Reference Lists." 16mo, cloth, 50 cents.

Contents: Some Hints on Right Reading; Correction of Aimless Reading; The Specializing of Reading, for General Readers; "Current Literature" and "Standard Literature"; Securing the Interest of a Community; What may be Done at Home; How to Use a Library; Books and Articles on Reading.

"Mr. Foster's aim is to show how the aimless reader of the ordinary public library, the man or woman who 'wants a book' but does not know what book, or even what sort of book, may be led to take a lively interest in books and the library. Here Mr. Foster speaks as one having authority, because in doing this very thing he has been most successful. His little book is to be recommended in the highest manner to all who seek to improve the quality of their reading, or who desire to give aid and advice to others."—*The Critic*.

"No one, with limited resources, has done more to turn

to account the collection under his charge, or shown greater activity and ingenuity in devising ways and means to stimulate reading, study, and research, and guide them in the proper direction. His chapters are valuable as exhibiting phase after phase of his perception of the conditions under which public libraries are now used, and found to be of service, by widely differing classes of the community. They are all sound, practical, and suggestive, and will benefit parents, their elder children, and the author's fellow-librarians about equally."—*Nation*.

MONTHLY REFERENCE LISTS.

A Guide for the Reader and Student to Trustworthy Sources of Information on Current Topics. Prepared by WILLIAM E. FOSTER, Librarian Providence Public Library. Terms, \$1 per year, 10 cents per number. Sample copies furnished on application.

"The two volumes 1881-82, of the Providence Library's *Monthly Reference Lists*, . . . are a welcome addition to the endless variety of Indexes. They can be used in connection with any good public or private library."—*The Nation*, January 18, 1883.

"Most thoroughly and carefully selected, embracing a wide range, from the best German authorities to the latest

articles in current literature."—*New England Journal of Education*, April 21, 1881.

"Any teacher with advanced pupils, desirous of training students in habits of investigation, could scarcely do better than supply these lists as texts for composition."—*Springfield Daily Republican*, April 22, 1881.

The above may be ordered through booksellers everywhere.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 9.

JULY, 1884.

NO. 7.

C: A. CUTTER, *Editor.*

THE postponement of the International Library Conference to next year was made necessary by a number of reasons, which were evident to each member of the A. L. A. Board. The visit of the British Association proved a hindrance instead of a help to the success of the library meeting, as some of the American librarians, particularly those of Philadelphia, were engaged in connection with that visit. The facilities and reductions offered were not greater than could probably be had for our own conference separately. Canadian attention, which it was thought would be given largely to the library meeting as an encouragement to library progress in the Dominion, proved to be concentrated on the Montreal gathering. A careful canvass showed that only seven members of the L. A. U. K. were likely to cross, none of these working librarians, and replies to nearly a hundred letters sent out to A. L. A. people showed that many of our own members could not get to Toronto. It is hoped that a more successful international meeting may be arranged for 1885. Whether an A. L. A. Conference shall be held in one of our own cities later in the fall is still a question.

MR. POOL's communication about Mr. Poole's Index is only one of a great many proofs of the usefulness of that work, and of its constant consultation in every library in which books are used for any purpose beyond mere amusement. Mr. Pool's remark about the increased demand for periodicals is precisely what might have been expected. The same thing was said in more than one library about the first edition. Indeed if there had been no other way to get the new edition printed, the second-hand dealers and the possessors of duplicates ought to have aided by a subscription.

WE are glad to receive the account of the foundation of a library for railway employes at Winnipeg. It is agreeable to see culture pene-

trating where a few decades ago all was wilderness; it is encouraging that the workmen care enough for reading to provide it for themselves. The Winnipeg railway men are by no means alone in so doing. There are a number of railway libraries in the United States. How many we shall not know till the long-delayed report of the Census Bureau on libraries appears. They are not represented at our annual conferences; they have no costly buildings, nor many books; but they do a good work in a quiet way, we have been told.

TO MR. LARNED the chief excellence of his new notation lies in the fact that it makes pronounceable words. Marks which are merely signs and not syllables trouble him and he cannot read *ADQ ay de cue* as easily when he sees only three letters of the alphabet, as he can when the sounds are spelled out by seven. We find no such difficulty with the letters and no practical superiority in the syllables that will repay for the greater space they occupy and the longer time they take to write. To us the merit of his system lies in an entirely different quarter, in a peculiar adaptation to an excellent classification rather than in ease of reading.

The excellence is this. His method enables the librarian to arrange the books relating to countries in a better fashion than is possible with any classification hitherto devised. All the great systems before and after Brunet throw books into great subject divisions, as history, geography and travels, science, literature, and subdivide these by countries. The Boston Public Library was the first, so far as we know, to break through this traditional order and make a geographical arrangement. An alcove was devoted to the general works on history, another to general geography, a third to general literature, a fourth to language in general. But the works on the history, geography, literature, and language of England were side by side in the different divisions of a single alcove or of two or three contiguous alcoves. France similarly had its pair of alcoves, and Germany one or two,

Other libraries which have fixed location have been since arranged in the same fashion, either in imitation or of their own motion. But all of the schemes of classification with a movable location, Mr. Schwartz's, Mr. Dewey's, Mr. Edmonds's, Mr. Smith's, Mr. Cutter's, have gone back to the old division by subject, either because they did not think of geographical arrangement or because, as was the case in the last instance, they did not see how it could be marked with their notation. Mr. Larned has removed that difficulty. His notation allows equally well of either arrangement. He can bring all his works on political economy together and then arrange certain parts of it, for instance, tariffs or commerce, geographically; and he can equally well bring all the works on the history, geography, and literature of England together, subdividing them as they are historical, descriptive, or literary. And he will employ the same sign to mean England as a class and England as a subdivision of another class, and that sign will never mean anything else. The sign for political economy, too, will never mean anything else. These are immense advantages, which are possessed by no other system ever invented. Whether the particular classification given as an example was worked out in the best possible manner in all its details is another question. That classification was prepared in a hurry simply to show the possibilities of the system and not for actual use. No doubt it would be modified before putting it in practice.

Literature, history, and geography form a division of a library of a very different character from the division Sciences and arts. In the former section nationality is paramount, in the latter science. The principles of philosophy, of mathematics, of natural science, are the same throughout the world, and in those subjects principles are everything; but the history of England has nothing in common with the history of Germany to require them to be intimately associated. It is a question of degree, to be sure; for there are philosophies of history and universal histories, and there are national philosophies and religions and local fauna and flora; but it remains true that, though each of these two halves of a library has characteristics in common with the other, they are on the whole so diverse that they justify a different treatment, that they are in fact the reverse of one another, and are best accommodated by inverse treat-

ment. As new books come into the library the scientific works are attracted each to the pole of its own science; but the historical and literary works, on the contrary, naturally cluster around the poles of the different countries, arranging themselves there into groups, according to the way in which they treat the matter. This arrangement Mr. Larned's notation favors, although it is equally suited to the ordinary order. All other notations are adapted only to the latter.

American Library Association.

TORONTO MEETING POSTPONED.

It has been found that the dates announced for the Toronto meeting, Sept. 3-7, '84, are impracticable, a number of leading members having other engagements that will not allow their attendance, also that but a few members of the English Association, and those not working librarians, could attend. As the Executive Board were especially anxious that our first meeting outside the United States should be a representative gathering, and as so many other associations to which more or less of our members belong have fixed their meetings just before or after that of the British Association, it seems wisest to put over the international meeting another year, and to arrange later, or to omit, the 1884 Conference of the A. L. A. Many members outside the Executive Board, including our friends abroad, have been consulted before announcing this decision. Arrangements have already been made with one of the best steamship companies for as low rates for a library delegation as are given to the British Association, and it is expected that the postponement will result in a much larger meeting next year.

In case of the omission of our 1884 Conference the yearly Reporters hold office till the next meeting, and none of the preparations already made by them or those who were to read papers will be lost.

Early notice will be given of further decisions regarding the Conference.

MELVIN DEWEY, Secretary.
NEW YORK, July 10, 1884.

[The notes of the Executive Board since received decide almost unanimously to omit the meeting this fall and concentrate our efforts on the 1885 Conference.]

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY ECONOMY AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

BY MELVIL DEWEY.

ON May 7, 1883, there was laid before the Board of Trustees a plan for a School of Library Economy. The Board referred the proposition to the Library Committee of seven trustees, who gave it mature consideration, and May 5, 1884, reported unanimously in favor of establishing the school. The trustees thereupon

Resolved, That there be established, in connection with the college, a school in which instruction may be given in the principles of library management, and in which learners may qualify themselves to discharge the duties of professional librarians; such school to be called the Columbia College School of Library Economy.

Resolved, That the school established by the foregoing resolution shall be under the superintendence and control of the Library Committee, who shall prescribe the course of instruction to be pursued in it, fix the amount of the tuition fees to be paid by its students, and enact all necessary rules for its government, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Resolved, That the Chief Librarian under the Committee, and with the advice and approval of the President, shall have the general direction of the school and of the course of instruction so established, with the style and title of Professor of Library Economy.

Resolved, That the Library Committee be authorized to make arrangements with experienced librarians or experts whose co-operation in the conduct of the school may be desirable; and that any expenses incurred may be defrayed out of the fees received for tuition in said school.

Resolved, That instruction in the school shall commence on the first Monday of October, 1886, or at such other date as the Library Committee may fix.

GENERAL PLAN.

The Board have intentionally avoided deciding details, hoping that the suggestions of the large number of experienced librarians who have professed interest in the school, and the expression of the needs of those hoping to attend it, together with the practical experience gained from teaching meanwhile two preliminary classes, will make clear what is really needed. Such expressions of what those interested think will be most valuable to the library profession, will be cordially received, and have due attention,

if sent to the Chief Librarian, who has been made Director of the school.

While the two years' preparation will doubtless result in minor changes, the general plan of the school will be substantially as outlined below.

There will be only one session each year, beginning probably immediately after the Christmas holidays, 1886.

The amount of fees and the nature of certificates or degrees to be given will be decided and announced during the preceding year. The expenses will be made as moderate as possible, in order to permit the attendance of students of limited means.

PRIVILEGES, PARTIAL COURSES.

Members of the school will be entitled to all university privileges, the use of libraries, reading-rooms, scientific collections, etc., and admission to the various courses of evening lectures. It is desirable that as many as possible take the entire course; but to provide for those whose limited time will not allow this, but who wish instruction on the subjects of special personal interest, the study will be taken up by topics, completing one before beginning another, so that one interested in any special topic may attend while the school is engaged on his subject without taking the full course *e. g.*, a private book-owner may attend the lectures on Cataloging, Binding, and Buying, without studying the details of the management of public circulating libraries, in which he may have no special interest.

The hours of class exercises in the Library School will allow those wishing it to arrange for instruction in other college departments if their time is not fully occupied. The opportunities are so great for study and investigation in other subjects that all time can be used to the best advantage, and it is expected that many library students will utilize their university residence for special studies, and that members of the various other schools will often elect a part at least of the course in Library Economy.

GENERAL SCOPE.

While no time, study, nor cost has been spared in perfecting the methods, fittings, etc., adopted for the College Library, the School of Library

Economy is not to teach these methods, nor those of any individual or class of libraries or librarians.

It interprets Library Economy in its broadest sense, as including all the special training needed to select, buy, arrange, catalogue, index, and administer in the best and most economical way any collection of books, pamphlets, or serials.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION.

As the school aims to give not only information, but practical training, something more than the ordinary scholastic method is essential, and any means that promise to make more efficient librarians will be tried.

Thus far it has been decided to give the training and instruction by Lectures, Reading, The Seminar, Visiting Libraries, Problems, and Work.

As mere lectures and text-books, however good, will not give the best preparation for the law without practice in office work and moot courts, and observations of the methods of the ablest members of the bar; nor the best training to the physician without clinics and experience in the hospitals; and as no good working chemist was ever made without the laboratory, so lectures and reading alone will not achieve the best results in training for librarianship without the conference, problems, study of various libraries in successful operation, and actual work in a library. The aim of the school is wholly practical, and therefore it will use all these methods in such proportion as experience proves will give the best results.

OBJECT TEACHING. — Throughout the course object teaching will be used wherever possible.

Every book, blank, or other article referred to in the lectures will if practicable be on the desk for inspection, and of all blanks, forms, blank books, etc., extra sheets will be provided, so that each member of the school may not only see, but have a sample to retain, attached to his notes of the use, merits, faults, and modifications desirable for various special uses. A similar distribution will be made of many other inexpensive articles, *e. g.* improved shelf-support pins, card-catalog guides, etc., which no description or notes can make as clear or useful as a sample. Each subject will be summed up in concise but explicit rules or directions, embodying what the preceding discussion indicates to be the best, *e. g.*, after explaining the necessity and uses of the shelf

catalog and the various forms in use, with references to discussions in the LIBRARY JOURNAL and other sources, a model form in an actual sheet from a shelf list with sample entries filled in will be given each student. This will show paper, size, rulings, and headings, and will be accompanied by explicit rules for entry of all kinds of books, pamphlets, periodicals, maps, etc. The various forms of binders, cases, or books to use for the shelf sheets, etc., will be shown, their practical working described, and their merits and faults for various uses pointed out.

In discussing the CARD CATALOGS, model cards filled out in the most approved form, and in the standard "library hand" writing, will be given each student, illustrating all the many rules, with footnotes and references wherever the point can thus be made plainer. The cataloging rules themselves will be given separately so far as differing for various kinds of catalogs, so that the novice may not be compelled to study out how much of each rule may apply to the special style of catalog he is making.

Under BUYING, with the warnings and suggestions how to get the most for the money, will be given various tables to show net cost to the library of books at the usual price per franc, mark, shilling, etc., after adding commissions, fees, freight, insurance, brokerage, etc., tables of various discounts to enable bills to be checked up more accurately and rapidly, and specimen sheets with directions for library book-keeping on the most improved and simplified plans. These few random illustrations will show the general scope of the work.

Whenever any article is described, which cannot be placed before the class, its size, best material, maker, cost, etc., will be given, with an engraving to accompany the notes wherever desirable and possible, the purpose being to omit nothing that the inexperienced may need to know, in order to get the most practical good from these suggestions.

THE BLACKBOARD will be freely used, and the more valuable illustrations, tables, and figures will be printed or otherwise duplicated, in order to supply each student with copies for his notes. During and at the close of each lecture opportunity will be given for questions, and a box for anonymous queries will be always available for those preferring to suggest difficulties in this way.

As the study will be by topics, when any subject is under consideration all these methods will be used, *e. g.*, the Accession Catalogue will be treated in a LECTURE pointing out its importance, illustrating its various uses, and explaining the best forms. References will be made to articles worth READING on this topic; in the SEMINAR, or round table conference, the discussion will be on the Accession Book; in the PROBLEM class, various peculiar cases, all connected with the Accession department, will be given out for solution; in the WORKROOM or laboratory the practice under supervision will be in writing up a model Accession Book; and in VISITING other libraries, attention will be given specially to this feature. By thus approaching each subject on all sides at once, it will be more thoroughly mastered and in shorter time.

THE LECTURES are designed to develop interest in the work, give needed inspiration, and such information as is not more effectively given by one of the other methods below. Here as everywhere, object lessons, samples for each student, black-board illustrations, questions and answers will give the most practical character possible to the work.

THE READING method aims to put in the hands of students such matter as must be read in connection with their studies and practice, and to direct to such other matter as should be read later, if not during the course. Critical estimates of the books, pamphlets, and articles will be given, with cautions where allowance must be made for the peculiar circumstances or prejudices of the writers, and reports and summaries of the matter read will be required of the students.

THE SEMINAR, Conference, or Round Table, will bring together teachers and students for familiar discussion and examination of the subject before the school.

Short original papers, summaries of books and articles read, new theories or stricture on old ones, and withal the greatest freedom of inquiry and criticism, will make these frequent conferences of the greatest interest and practical utility.

THE PROBLEM method, closely connected with the Seminar, will test the proficiency of the students and specially will cultivate self-reliance. After each topic is studied in the school, each student will be given problems taken from experience, or oftener prepared to better illustrate the point, the solution of which will require thorough knowledge of the subject.

Toward the end of the course these subjects

will include a large portion of the topics treated, *e. g.*, a student is given a memorandum such as might be prepared by a competent library trustee and sent to a newly elected librarian, who had no knowledge of the peculiar circumstances of the institution over which he was to preside.

Such notes would include size of town, character of inhabitants, extent of manufacturing element, etc., other libraries or reading-rooms, amount of property and annual income, nature of governing board, tenure of office, number of volumes, annual increase heretofore, and specially the number and exact state of the catalogues and indexes, the regulations in force, the system of issuing and charging books, selecting, buying, binding, etc. With such data the student after study of the case states before the class what he would do as librarian, being prepared to defend his decisions against the criticisms of his associates.

As problems can readily be made to fit any special requirements, the variety available is limitless, and the careful solution, discussion and final criticisms and suggestions of the teachers will serve the same purpose as a well conducted moot court for a student of law.

The repeated study of definite cases will give self-reliance, a quality without which many able men fail in new undertakings, from an unwillingness to trust their own powers.

These practical problems will include difficulties such as librarians are liable to meet and advise upon in all departments, cataloging, indexing, aids to readers, hunting down hard questions involving the skilful use of a large bibliographical apparatus, etc.

VISITING other libraries, either individually or in classes, will be a regular feature of the school. In the Seminar each student will report what he has seen in the last library visited, with his criticisms. The other students who have visited the same library will first be heard, and the teacher will supply the points, pro or con, which none of the others have noted. In this way not only will practical knowledge of value be gained from the visits, but the students will have learned how to get most good from such opportunities in after experience.

The public and private libraries of New York and vicinity which will be open for such visits afford a very large field for this method of work.

WORK.—Provision has been made to give each student daily library work, carefully supervised by trained teachers, who will supplement the instruction of the lecturers. Those taking the full

course will thus have had some actual experience in all the varied duties of a great library, the option being given any student of omitting certain departments.

Here as elsewhere it will be arranged as far as practicable that the student shall carry away with him tangible results of his work, *e. g.*, in practising the rules for cataloging he might prepare a card-catalogue of select works on bibliography and library economy. These cards, corrected by the teachers, would be retained as the student's property, and would be of double value as a list of books in which he was specially interested, and as illustrating the errors he had made and against which he needed specially to guard.

To the more advanced will be given work including many and special difficulties. Librarians are invited to send to the school for such practice, cases that are specially misleading to catalogers. Dealing in a few days with as many such cases as may arise in several years of actual work will concentrate experience and act as a safeguard to the young librarian.

For practice in the use of reference books specially in bibliography, problems will be frequently given out, and several literary papers in New York, that receive many suitable questions for such practice, have offered to furnish them for the use of the school. After the student has looked up and prepared the answer, the teacher will point out how and where fuller or more reliable information might have been found, or the same result obtained with less labor.

SUBJECTS OF STUDY.

Beside the Professor of Library Economy, and the teachers now being trained for their special work, specialists in various departments will be engaged for lectures and instruction. The list of teachers and lecturers with their subjects will be printed as soon as decided.

The course will include the antiquarian or historical only when necessary to illustrate or enforce modern methods. Its aim is entirely practical—to give the best obtainable advice, with specific suggestions on each of the hundreds of questions that rise from the time a library is decided to be desirable, till it is in perfect working order, including the administration. A few topics will illustrate, until the schedule is ready for publication. Developing interest, press, pulpit, school, personal effort; raising funds by taxes, private bequests, membership fees, lectures, fairs, etc.; location; building; heating, light-

ing and ventilating book- and reading-rooms; shelving, furniture and fittings; labor-saving devices; trustees and committees; qualifications necessary in librarian and assistants; duties, titles, salaries and vacations; selection of books and periodicals; buying, prices, auctions, old book catalogues; gifts, judicious begging; official and society publications; order slips, sheets and book; reception and collation; accession catalogues; shelf lists; printed *vs.* MS. catalogues; card *vs.* book catalogues; author *vs.* subject catalogues; dictionary *vs.* classed catalogues; classification on the shelves; systems of notation; charging systems; regulations, delinquents and fines; access to shelves; special privileges; evening opening; Sunday and holiday opening; closing for vacation or examination; aids to readers; practical bibliography; books, choice of editions; methods of reading; literary methods; binding, leathers, sewing, lettering, significant colors; repairs, etc., etc.

For those who wish direct information of the plans and progress of the new school an address register of the "Interested" is kept. To those who send their addresses for this register fuller details of the course, teachers, subjects and other matters pertaining to the School of Library Economy will be mailed promptly when issued. The address is Melvil Dewey, Columbia College, New York.

COMMUNICATION.

CANADIAN PACIFIC R. W. CO. (WESTERN DIVISION) LIBRARY & READING-ROOM.

WINNIPEG, MAN., 28 June, 1884. — The rapid growth of this city, and the important position which it seems destined to occupy in connection with the Canadian North West, is known to some extent in the United States, but very little effort has been shown in the direction of promoting organizations calculated to advance the circulation of sound and useful literature. The trading classes are almost wholly absorbed in their callings, and the cultivated literary element which gives energy to these movements is found only in exceptional instances.

True, the "Historical Society," and the "Young Men's Christian Association" have been working in this direction, but the former is not within the reach of workingmen, and the latter furnishes only newspapers and periodical literature, but book literature for the use of the working-classes cannot be obtained.

This city has now a population of about 30,000

souls, which is fully three times its number, at the introduction of the railway, six years since, and when the line is completed to the "Pacific"—a work on which 8000 men are now engaged west of this place—we may look for a large addition to our population. It can readily be understood that in a new community, the rank and file of the working-classes must form the majority, and it is of the greatest necessity that food for the mind should be provided them. At the present time the railway interest absorbs the greatest number of hands in one employ, and it is consequently the centre from which endeavors can be made with the greatest chances of success.

In our isolated position (geographically) from older and settled communities, our difficulties are greater, and we naturally look to them for countenance. It would be of great use to us to receive contributions of newspapers or periodicals, or assistance of any kind which would advance the object we have in view. I inclose a short article which I have recently written on the subject, and may remark that I was a member of the first Conference of Librarians which assembled in London, Eng., in Oct. 1877.

JACOB FREEMAN,
Chairman of Committee.

[In the article from the Manitoba *Daily Free Press*, Mr. Freeman states that a short time since it occurred to Mr. Reid, the Master Mechanic of the C. P. R., that, in view of the limited facilities offered in this new city for social and moral culture, some means should be adopted to induce the workmen in the employ to lend their assistance in the organization of a library and reading-room for their use; that much enthusiasm was displayed, meetings of the workmen were called, a subscription list was opened, and the various departments vied with each other in the amount of their contributions, the result being that the funds very quickly amounted to nearly \$500.

"Already other good results have sprung out of this organization, and a series of entertainments are now being given in the mess-room attached to the works, on the first Thursday in each month."]

IN RE POOLE'S INDEX.

POOLE'S Index of Periodical Literature is kept on our catalogue desk for public reference.

It has a strong binding and shows as yet no disposition to break down, but its first pages have had to be mended. Mr. Poole will need to use better paper in the next edition and charge a little more.

The Index, I should say, had doubled and trebled the use of our bound periodicals, and every day we feel the necessity of filling up this department of literature, and extending the number. R. B. POOL, Lib'n Y. M. C. A., N. Y.

Library Economy and History.

TOWRY, M. H. The arrangement of private libraries. Pt. 1. (Pages 168-171, of *Bibliographer*, May.)

THAYER, S. J. T., architect. Nevens Memorial Hall, Methuen, Mass. (View and plan, in *Amer. architect*, June 21.)

See description in *Lib. Jul.*, 9: 77.

WILDING. On a library of chained books at Chirbury. (In *Journal of the British Archaeological Assoc.*, 39: 4.)

THE President of the Hartford Library Association says that the probable yearly circulation of a free library in a city like Hartford, with a population of 50,000 inhabitants, would be between one and two hundred thousand, and that its probable membership would be between fifteen and twenty thousand. A Bridgeport (Conn.) paper gives a table showing the circulation of some of the principal New England free libraries (excepting Boston) according to their reports for last year:

	Population 1883	Volumes in Library	Total Circulation	Reference Circulation	Members Registered	Years Established
Bridgeport, Ct.	35,000	14,758	87,779	14,400	5,735	21½
Providence, R. I.	120,000	25,520	85,486	9,398	23,432	6
Lowell, Mass.	60,000	30,000	51,330	not stated	3,474	2
Worcester.	60,000	60,000	116,850	52,395	not stated	24
Lawrence.	39,000	24,912	115,674	10,334	17,447	12
Lynn.	39,000	32,066	75,432	14,598	20,611	22
New Bedford.	27,000	46,436	72,222	not stated	20,154	32
Brookline.	8,000	23,062	46,373	4,215	not stated	27

"We have no recent report of the admirable Bronson Library of Waterbury at hand; but its circulation for 1880-81 is given as 42,672. It must be remembered that the number of members registered in long-established libraries is always much greater than that of those who actually draw books. With active management, a free library in Hartford might circulate 100,000

books; but it would scarcely approach 200,000 with the present population. The very large circulation of the Brookline free library, upon which the president lays such stress, is phenomenal; but it is obvious that the circulation in small towns is likely to be relatively greater than in cities.

"We should be glad to see our sister city obtain the \$10,000 per year which is declared to be essential to the existence of her proposed free library; but it might be worth while to begin upon a smaller sum. The Bridgeport Public Library began with a gift of about 10,000 volumes from the old Bridgeport Library Association. Very few New England libraries have a smaller number of books, yet its circulation is inferior to none. Its work was done last year at a total cost to the city of \$6,149.44, while we observe that the cost of running the Hartford Library Association, with its membership of 490, and its circulation of 25,592, was \$6,701.32. It would be well for Hartford to try the experiment of a modest beginning. Put the free library into the hands of honest men, study the best intellectual tendencies of the citizens and try to promote them, spend, not for show, but use, and a little money will go a great way."

Abstracts and extracts from Reports.

Brooklyn Library. (Added 5589; total 80,157; issued 103,669; used in the building about 52,000). Mr. Noyes ends his report with an appeal for adoption by the city.

"How much greater would be the utility and the influence of the library if it could be made a great Public Free Library scarcely needs saying, but unfortunately a great deal of money would be necessary to produce this consummation—the income on a million dollars at least. At present the city spends \$1,000,000 a year on its public schools, but who can doubt that that money is well spent, that the city as a whole has received a full return in a more intelligent, orderly and useful population than it would otherwise have possessed? Does not the expenditure for public schools ultimately *lessen* rather than increase the rate of taxation? We believe that an expenditure of \$60,000 or \$70,000 per annum to make this library a Free Public Library would make at least an equal return, dollar for dollar, with that spent on the public schools. It would daily minister to the education and enjoyment of thousands; would increase the value of the labor of our working classes; would knit together more closely the different parts of our city, and would raise appreciably the average of intelligence in the community.

"According to a recent writer, the expenditure in the city of New York by the city charities, other public charities, churches and individuals, for the relief of the poor, is not less than \$8,000,000 annually. While these institutions do a work that appeals very strongly to the human heart, as is shown by the amount of money they receive, is it not certain that the

same amount of money could be better invested in education as a preventive, rather than in charity as an alleviative of pauperism? Instead of trying to dam the flood, we must seek to dry up its sources, otherwise its volume will continually increase.

"The report of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, in calling attention to the cheap papers and pamphlets containing stories of the real or unreal in criminal life says: "The practice of flooding the country with the blood and thunder literature of the day is cursing society and breeding criminals in every walk of life. Our courts are almost literally thronged with boy and girl criminals. We do not claim that all of these are the direct result of evil reading, but from our observation we believe that a vast majority are."

"As a preventive of pauperism there is no such potent factor as education, and as a promoter of education we claim that, after the public schools, and supplementing their work, there is no such effective educator as a judiciously selected and well administered Public Library."

Clinton, Mass. Bigelow Free P. L. (Added 661; total 11,339; issued 35,820. In the list of most popular writers of fiction W. T. Adams, H. Alger, jr., M. J. Holmes, and Mrs. Southworth are the first four, Dickens is near the middle and Thackeray near the end.

The *Library Co. of Philadelphia's* July Bulletin records the completion by Professor Thomas, after two years' labor, of the binding and indexing of the celebrated papers of Dr. B. Rush, which his son, Dr. James Rush, directed by will should be preserved and retained in the institution. The papers as indexed and arranged embrace 52 volumes from 1769 to 1869. They relate especially to the American Revolution, and include letters of Adams, Bartlett, Clymer, Franklin, Hancock, Hopkins, Jefferson, Morris, etc.

Another valuable batch of historical letters, known as the "Dillwyn papers," from 1770 to 1824, are mentioned in the bulletin. These consist of a series of delightful letters which, during a period of 54 years, passed between William Dillwyn and Susanna Emlen, his daughter. The father was living in London; the daughter was sometimes at Burlington, sometimes at Philadelphia, sometimes at places between the two. A correspondence so full of the details of the social life of the time cannot, perhaps, be found elsewhere.

The "Streper Papers" are another important acquisition of the Ridgway Branch. They number about 150 consisting of letters, agreements, accounts, and have been gathered together and arranged by Prof. Thomas. Covering as they do the earliest period in the history of Pennsylvania, and filled as they are with the descriptive details of the work and the home life of the writers, they constitute an invaluable source of historical information, especially concerning Germantown.

The chess collection of the late Professor George Allen was recently purchased from his heirs by the Library Company and a special room has been devoted to it at the Ridgway Branch. A chess table of beautiful finish has also been provided by the directors, for the use of students and amateurs.

The Allen collection comprises nearly 900 titles, besides 250 autograph letters and fifty photographs and engravings of chess celebrities.

Merc. Lib. Assoc., N. Y. (Added 5853; total 203,150; issued 126,089.) A branch has been opened at 431 Fifth Avenue, rent \$2500. In eight months 509 new members joined there, others transferred their accounts from the main library. In all 971 persons have borrowed 19,227 vols. "The last annual report showed a decrease in membership of 280, this year we report a net increase of 231. This result is largely due to the opening of the branch library on Fifth Avenue." The price of book delivery to residences was reduced from ten to five cents. "We regret that the result has not been what we anticipated and hoped for. While the number of deliveries increased from 1695 to 2064 the increase was not sufficient to make good the loss in receipts occasioned by the reduction. The price of postal orders notifying members when they can obtain the books that they desire has been reduced to two cents."

Odd Fellows' Library Association. (Added 268; total 39,253; issued 33,854.) The librarian (G. A. Carnes), says: "The reports of a year ago were predicated upon the fact that the library was to be closed on the first of July following, and the librarian, in his valedictory, bid an official farewell to his associates. These proceedings were as usual printed in pamphlet form, and sent throughout the country to various friends. If any of them took the trouble to read the reports, to them this library is a thing of the past, and if the results of this evening's proceedings should reach them, they will no doubt be surprised, and probably pleased to find that we still live. Such is the fact. Under the influence of strong lodge and individual protests, an experimental basis of expenses was arranged, on which it was thought the institution, though partially curtailed in its advantages and influence, could avoid the calamity of closing its doors. . . .

"The new hall will very soon, thanks to the courage and energy of the Odd Fellows' Hall Association, be an accomplished fact. The plans of the architect show the accommodations allotted to the library to be convenient, sun-lit, and ample for present purposes, and here it may rest and grow and radiate its benign influences for a brief generation. But I venture what may be called a premature prediction, that when the library is placed on the foundation it deserves, and which the wealth of the individual members of the order, and the liberality of the lodges are sure to accord to it, sooner or later, it will, under proper management and restric-

tions, burst the limitations which the necessities of the new hall will unavoidably impose, and fashion for itself its own architectural structure. For I believe that the library system of the order, like the order itself, is yet in its infancy, and must grow with the growth, and strengthen with the strength of the noble institution that has called it into being, and whose grand principles and good influences it so efficiently supplements."

The tone of the president's report is less hopeful. He says: "During the past year we have expended for new books \$235.97 a sum wholly insufficient, yet as much as our financial condition would admit.

"If this state of affairs continues, it is only a question of time when our library, collected with so much care, labor, and expense, will become comparatively useless, and its efficiency practically destroyed.

"Measures have from time to time been suggested for the relief of the library, among which, and perhaps the most feasible, is to transfer it to the Odd Fellows' Hall Association, thereby not only relieving the lodges from the burden of its support, but retaining among the members of the order all benefits to be derived from it."

Peabody Inst., Balt. (Added by gift 431; total 81,922; used 69,827.) The effect of the printed catalogue on the use of the library is already very perceptible. The cost of printing 500 copies has been \$3888.15 or \$7.77 per volume.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. "The library is practically free so far as that class in the community are concerned, who really desire to read. This is especially true of adults. The present subscription rate of fifty cents for six months is too small to prevent any very considerable number of this class from availing themselves of its privileges. The greatest value of the library is found in its use on the premises for consultation and study, and, in this respect, the library has been for many years entirely free.

"Of late years, the number of those who frequent the library has largely increased. Especially successful has been the effort to make the library supplement the instruction of the schools, and the scholars are thus enabled to investigate for themselves the subjects which come up in connection with the lessons of the day. To aid in the same direction, special privileges have been granted to teachers, enabling them to have at their disposal several cards for school use, to be distributed by them among the scholars, while they themselves are responsible for the use and for the safe return to the library of the volumes given out. The principal of one of our grammar schools says: "So far, the plan has succeeded beyond our expectations." He speaks of the experiment in the classes in history as especially successful, and remarks that "equally good results are anticipated from the use of the library in connection with the study of geography. . . .

"It is claimed that the class of people who would avail themselves of the use of the library

if the nominal fee of one dollar was removed, is the class from whom the library would suffer most and for whom it would do the least. It is claimed that that which costs nothing is apt to be lightly esteemed—that the increase in the loss and wear and tear of books would be far greater than the increase in the number of readers—that the books read by this class would, for the most part, be of the lightest and least profitable character. It is claimed that it is a cause of regret that so many of our present subscribers confine their reading almost exclusively to works of fiction, and that, if the library were to be made entirely free, the new-comers would be almost exclusively readers of this class—and that those who seek reading for improvement as well as recreation, are not deterred by the nominal subscription of one dollar.

"In reply to these objections to a free circulating department, we urge that there are some in the community who feel even the small tax of one dollar, and there are doubtless many of the young whose parents have no interest in books, and no care to supply them to their families, who would gladly avail themselves of the opportunities which a free library would afford.

"Moreover, in regard to the claim that the reading of new-comers would be of the character I have described, I fully believe that even this use of the library would be on the whole beneficial—that it is better to read only such works of fiction as we furnish them than to read nothing—that reading itself may educate and develop the taste so that it may crave a better quality of intellectual food, and especially that the influence of the library with its books and its students, and the very atmosphere of literary culture which pervades it, will constantly tend to elevate and develop the minds of those who come under its power.

"Therefore, though we clearly foresee that it will seem at first that many of the new readers read to little purpose but to the destruction of the books, we shall rejoice to see the library thrown open freely to all for purposes of circulation and home use, as soon as provision shall be made to meet the increased expenditure which the change will necessitate. We would have the good and wholesome literature designed to improve the mental and moral condition of the community as free as the air we breathe. We would indorse the sentiment of Lamartine uttered some years ago, while discussing the condition and wants of the workingmen of France:

"'Libraries for the people are wanted,' he says, 'books in the hands of the women, the girls and the children—by each fireside—books to be made the visitors, the hosts, the guests, and the friends of the workingman's home—books in every home—in rain and in winter—making home the centre of intelligence and affection and virtue. Pleasing communion must be found with the great minds who, in all ages, have best understood, felt, written, or sung the human heart.'

"We would have all the treasures of knowledge contained in good books, dispensed as

the sun dispenses light, in free and equal abundance to all.

"It should, however, be clearly understood that the change would render necessary a largely increased expenditure. More assistants would be needed to wait upon the increased number who would apply for books. Many additional copies of books, especially in the department of light literature, would have to be purchased, both to supply the increased demand, and to replace volumes which would more rapidly be worn out or lost. The expense of re-binding old books would also be very greatly increased.

"To meet this increased expenditure, a much larger appropriation from the city would be needed. There ought, also, to be strong assurance that the appropriation upon which the very life of the institution would depend should not be suddenly or capriciously diminished. Yet in the very nature of the case, such an assurance in regard to a City Government appropriation would be well-nigh impossible. The only assurance of permanence, stability, and progress for a free library, is in the possession of an endowment fund. While this always should be, and generally is, supplemented by an annual appropriation from the city, it insures a degree of independence, and prevents the interests of the library from being utterly at the mercy of the shifting policy of partisan politics.

"More than fifty of the free libraries of Massachusetts are to some extent endowed, and nearly two millions of dollars is invested in this way. Many of the best and most successful of the free libraries are of this class, and very frequently the conditions of the endowment require that the income shall be devoted to the purchase of valuable books of standard character, which shall be kept for reference only, and not allowed to be taken from the building. The city appropriation can then be expended in defraying the current expenses of the library, and in supplying the books for which there is a popular demand, while the higher needs and more important interests of the institution are provided for, and its permanent and increasing value as an educational power is assured. The Worcester Free Library is an example in point; more than one third of the books are in the reference department, which is being continually enlarged from the interest of the Green endowment fund, while the very liberal appropriation of the city, amounting to nearly twice as much as ours, furnishes requisite means for the current expenses and the supply of the popular literature of the day. In this way, a healthful growth in the more important departments of the library is secured, while the tastes and desires of the people at large are satisfied."

Yg. Men's Assoc. for Mutual Improvement, Albany, N. Y. (Added 1102; total 6290; issued 31,119.) "One is surprised to see how large a portion of the books added [in past years] were donated by friends of the Association. These gifts have rendered the library surprisingly full in the direction of public documents, but have left corresponding deficiencies in books of reference and standard works."

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GHIRON, cav. Isaia. Bibliografia lombarda. Milano, Dal Bono e C., 1884, 8°.

HALLER, Joseph. Altspanische Sprichwörter und sprichwörtliche Redensarten aus den Zeiten vor Cervantes. 2r Theil. Regensburg, Marz, 1883. 8+304 p. 8°.

This second volume is a bibliography. It is noticed, not favorably, by A. Morel-Fatio in *Rev. critique*, juin, p. 466-9.

HAWKINS, Rush C. Titles of the first books from the earliest presses established in different cities, towns, and monasteries in Europe, before the end of the 15th century, with brief notes upon their printers. With reproductions of early types and first engravings of the printing press. N. Y., J. W. Bquton, London: B. Quaritch. 1884. 29+[1]+143+[1] p.+25 pl. l. Q. (300 copies.) \$10.

"Contains a list of all the cities, towns, monasteries, and other places in which printing-presses are known to have been established before the end of the 15th century; also, the title of the first book issued from each of the places stated, and, when known, the name of the printer and date.

"Prosper Marchand's 'Histoire de l'origine et des premiers progrès de l'imprimerie,' of 1740, mentions 196 such places. Bowyer and Nichols, in 1776, printed a list of 152. Panzer, in his 'Annales,' published in 1797, after leaving out several of the towns mentioned by Marchand, makes the number 192. Santander, in his 'Dictionnaire bibliographique' of 1805, names 207. Cotton's 'Typographical gazetteer,' printed in 1831, states the number to be 218. Hain, in his 'Repertorium bibliographicum' of 1831, mentions 209; and Reichhart, the author of 'Druckorte des 15. Jahrhunderts,' published in 1853, brings the number up to 221. In this list are described 236 books, which we have reasons for regarding as the earliest of the first printers in the places specified.

"Many of the works described have been personally examined; the names of the printers, dates, places of printing, number of leaves, and sometimes of lines, have been verified, and are here correctly stated."—*Introd.*

THEODORE W. HUNT, in his "Principles of written discourse, N. Y., Armstrong, 1884," 11+362 p. D., \$1, gives a bibliography of the subject, grouped as "Manuals and treatises," "Special discussions," and "Miscellaneous criticisms and essays."

MANNO, Antonio. Repertorio bibliografico delle pubblicazioni della R. Accad. delle Scienze di Torino. Torino, stamperia reale di G. B. Paravia, 1883. 352 p. 4°.

Covers 124 years, 1759-1883. In two parts, 1. contents by volumes; 2. alphabetical index in which places, persons, and subjects are distinguished by varieties of type.

MAVER, Anton. Wiens Buchdrucker-Geschichte. 1482-1882. 1r Band, 1482-1682. Wien, 1883. 404 p. 4°. Illustr. 24 m. (Luxus-Ausg., 100 copies, 40 m.) Vol. 2d and last will appear in 1884.

OLDING, W. H. Romance in the suppression of books. (Pages 470-487 of *Gentleman's mag.*, May.)

PERKINS, F. B. San Francisco cataloguing for public libraries. Price with classification, \$1.; without, 50 cts. San F., 1884. 53+57+4 p. O.

The classification is Mr. Perkins's "Rational classification," published in 1882. He might very properly have entitled the present work, "Common-sense cataloging." It is full of sensible, and like all the author's writings, amusing remarks. It will be a great boon to catalogers, especially to beginners. We do not agree with all the recommendations, as we shall take occasion hereafter to show in a longer notice; but as a whole we cordially recommend it.

REVUE bibliog. univ. des sciences médicales, avec tables alphabét. annuelles des matières et des auteurs, pub. par fasc. mensuels, par le dr. comte Meyners d'Estrey. Tom. 1, no. 1. Paris, 31 jan., 1884. 96 p. 8°. 30 fr. a year.

ROCKWELL, Julius Ensign. Bibliography of American and English authors. (Pages 61-159 of his Teaching, practice, and literature of shorthand, Wash., 1884. 159+[1] p. O + folded table. Circular no. 2, 1884, of the Bureau of Education.)

SOLEIL, Félix. Les heures gothiques et la littérature pieuse au 15^e et au 16^e siècles, Rouen, Augé, 1883. 300 p. 8°. With 1 etching, 24 fac-similes and 6 designs by A. Duplais-Destouches. (300 copies.) 40 francs.

Praised in *Bull. crit.*, p. 166, 167. The "Heures" are described at length, the best engravings are reproduced, extracts are given in gothic characters, and there is a minute description, with 6 engravings of a "danse macabre" found at Kermaria.

WHITNEY, Ja. Lyman. A modern Proteus; or, a list of books published under more than one title. N. Y., F. Leypoldt, 1884. 106 p. S.

M. HIF. BLANC announces a Bibliographie des corporations ouvrières, 80 to 100 pp. in the style of Brunet, with indexes, 5 fr., to subscribers 3 fr.

Changed Titles.

SUPPLEMENT TO "A MODERN PROTEUS."

By J. L. WHITNEY, *Boston Public Library.*

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- ALLEN, Nathan. An essay on the opium trade. Including a sketch of its history, extent, effects, etc., as carried on in India and China. Boston, J. P. Jewett & Co., 1850.—The opium trade; including [etc.]. 2d ed., Lowell, J. P. Walker, 1853.—*D. H.*
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- BIDWELL, G. H. Treatise on the imposition of forms. N. Y., Raymond & Caulon, 1865.—The printers' new hand-book. A treatise on the imposition of forms. N. Y., Author, [1875].—*D. H.*
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- CHARLES, Elizabeth (Rundell). Selections from the writings of the author of "The Schönberg-Cotta family." By a friend. London: Daldy, Isbister & Co. 1877.—Thoughts and characters. Selections from the writings of the author of "The Schönberg-Cotta family." By a friend. London: Soc. for pr. Chr. knowledge. [1884?] [Home library.] Sm. 8°.
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These are identical except in title, and are both ascribed to Charles Reade.—*Charles Collins*.
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This is a reprint of "Erring, yet Noble. A tale of and for women," published anonymously in 1865, by J. Bradburn, New York.—*D. H.*

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RUSH, Richard. Memoranda of a residence at the court of London. Phila., Carey, Lea & Blanchard, 1833.—Narrative of a residence at the court of London. London, R. Bentley, 1833.—Memoranda of a residence at the court of London, from 1819 to 1825; including negotiations on the Oregon question. Phila., Lea & Blanchard, 1845.—Residence at the court of London from 1817 to 1825. 3d ed. London, Hamilton, Adams & Co., 1872.—*D. H.*

SPALDING, Martin John. General evidences of Catholicity. Louisville, Ky., B. J. Webb & Brother, 1847.—The evidences of Catholicity. 6th ed. with appendix. Baltimore, J. Murphy & Co., 1876.—*D. H.*
Preliminary lecture, and pastoral letter added to 2d. edition.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

The Breadwinners (Lib. jul., 9: 94). One who claims to know from personal knowledge asserts that this novel "is by a teacher in a public school in New York and not by Miss Calligan."

The Breadwinners.—In the present interest in the authorship of this popular novel it may be well to note, to avoid some confusion hereafter, that an anonymous "Bread-winners; by a lady of Boston," 295 p. 16°, was published at Boston, in 1871, by Nichols & Hall, and that the author was found to be Miss Susan D. Nickerson.

Goblet of Salobreña, The; songs [for an operetta of which both the words and the music were composed by W. Abbot Everett, of Cambridge. Played at the Arsenal Theatre, Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 25, 27, March 4, 1879, Camb., 1879.]

Jesus: his opinions and character, Boston, G. H. Ellis, 1883, is by G. F. Talbot, a lawyer of Portland, Me.—*S. J. Barrows*.

"*The Stars and the Earth*." (Lib. jul., 9: 107).—"In a note from Dr. Hill, dated Oct. 20, 1883, in answer to my inquiry, he says, 'I have not the slightest idea who wrote the Stars and the Earth.' The first American edition seems to have been published in 1849. It was published in Breslau in 1846 (the first part) under the title 'Die Gestirne und die Weltgeschichte,' 'von F. G.' In a later volume of Kayser's Lexikon 'F. G.' is given as 'Gust. Eberty.' In vol. 19 of Kayser, the same book, 3d edition (pub. at Breslau) is ascribed to 'Felix Eberty.' It was published in England (part 1st) in 1846.—*R.*

In reply to your question relative to my authority for ascribing the authorship of "*The Stars and the Earth*" to Dr. Hill I would say that I had the information directly from a person,

whose name I am not at liberty to give, who from the nature of the case ought certainly to have known, to the effect that Dr. Hill was, in part at least, the author of this work. My informant stated that as the work was published anonymously Dr. Hill was not supposed to be the author, but that as a matter of fact he was largely concerned in its production. I gathered from my informant's statement that the work was one of joint authorship.

I do not attach much importance to the denial of Dr. Hill to which your correspondent refers, since in such a case if an author desires to preserve his *incognito* a denial is an absolute necessity.

As to the existence of a prior German work on this subject may I remark that it is quite within the limits of possibility that there may have been two works on this subject of independent origin. A comparison of the early German with the American edition, however, would settle this point.—*R. B.*

Frederic Daly, ps. of Mr. Austin, private secretary of Irving in "Henry Irving in England and America, 1838-84, London, 1884," D.

George Taylor.—Since asking my question in L. J. for May, I find that Kürschner's Literatur-Kalender for 1884 states, under "Haus-rath, Adolf," that he is the author of the novels published under the above pseudonym, and as Mr. Kürschner claims that the entries in the "Kalender" are based on information received directly from the authors themselves, I should say that this settles the question beyond dispute. Mr. W. E. Foster also writes me that a friend of his, who has studied at the university of Heidelberg for the past two years, mentioned to him incidentally in March last, that "Klytia" was written by Prof. Hausrath.—*K. A. Linderfelt*.

Hugh Conway.—"Few people," says the *Evening Post*, "are acquainted with the curious circumstances under which the novel of 'Called back' has advanced from obscurity to its present extraordinary notoriety. The name on its title-page, 'Hugh Conway,' is the *nom de guerre* of Mr. F. J. Fergus, a member of a firm of auctioneers in Bristol, England. 'Called back' appeared originally in a Bristol publication of local repute only, named *Arrowsmith's Almanac*. Somewhat to the publisher's surprise, calls for this began to come from many quarters, and several editions proved inadequate to supply the growing demand. As soon as it became clear that 'Called back' was the attraction in the number, a separate edition of it was issued at the low price of a shilling. This came to the notice of Mr. Comyns Carr, the editor of the *English illustrated magazine*, who saw the dramatic possibilities in it, and soon afterward a highly eulogistic review in Mr. Labouchère's newspaper, *Truth*, brought the book prominently before the public. Edition after edition has been issued, until now the circulation has reached its 80th thousand."

Seth Eyland, ps. of David E. Cronin, in "The evolution of a life, N. Y., 1884." No reader of the work in Binghamton will fail to discover that the real author is David E. Cronin, who for some years was eminent in that town for conspicuous ability, courage, and force of character. Passages in his volume remind one of Mr. Booth's account of his life in Fielding's 'Amelia,' so unaffected is the style, so naively and candidly are the disclosures made." — *N. Y. Times*, June 30.

Patricius Walker, ps. of W. Allingham the poet, in "Rambles," London, Longmans, 1873. D. — *W. H. F.*

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General Notes.

AMHERST COLLEGE conferred a well-deserved honorary degree of A. M. at the last commencement on its new librarian, Mr. W. J. Fletcher.

LONDON.—A special exhibition of Wyclif literature has been projected by the authorities of the British Museum in connection with the Wyclif quincentenary commemoration.

LESBOS.—Mr. Pappadopoulos Kerameus visited last winter, the convent libraries of this island, where he found and cataloged 460 mss. of various epochs, the earliest of the 9th century.

BERLIN.—According to some late statistics the Royal Library at Berlin has 900,000 volumes, increases at the rate of 20,000 yearly, takes 1152 periodicals, and exclusive of them and continuations and bindings, expends 36,000 marks for books and manuscripts. Only 147 volumes were called for last year, of which 1-4 were already lent and 1-14 not in the library. 588 volumes were sent off to 250 persons.

PARIS.—The late inclosure of the quadrangle of the National Library has killed an historical tree. It was a *Gleditschia tricanthos* which was planted as a liberty tree in 1789 and attracted considerable attention because it was said that Robinson Crusoe (there was then a Crusoe-mania) had passed the first night on his island in the branches of one of the species. In 1859 when the great reading-room was built it was moved at the cost of 8000 francs. Now it is dead.

NEW CASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—The Free Library Committee have recently acquired, and placed in the Reference Department, a large and valuable collection of tracts and pamphlets—political, topographical, and polemical—printed in the two northern counties in the 17th and 18th centuries and the early part of the 19th. There are several hundred altogether, and it should now be comparatively easy to compile a fairly complete bibliography of Northumberland and Durham, two counties in which the printing-press for two hundred years has been particularly active. — *Ath.*

SOMERVILLE.—The aldermen have accepted the plans drawn by Mr. G. F. Loring for a new public library building. It is to be about 90 feet long, in the French-Romanesque style, of brick or stone with face-brick arches, and trimmed with Longmeadow freestone. The façade will be relieved by projecting belts, pilasters, arches, and cornices. The roof will be covered with slate and relieved by copper finials, and the tower will be surmounted by a large copper finial and ball. The library will accommodate about 40,000 volumes, and the building will afford ample space for reading and reference rooms, art gallery, and other apartments usually considered essential to such a structure, and, in addition, the second floor will furnish ample accommodations for city officers and an evening drawing-school. *Bost. d. Adv.*, 21, 6, 84.

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